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I. THE UNIONS AND EUROPE

5TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ICFTU UNIONS IN THE SIX : ROME, 9 TO 11 NOVEMBER 1966

The Fifth General Assembly of trade union organizations affiliated to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) in the six countries of the Community is to take place in Rome from 9 to 11 November 1966.

At its meeting on 20 and 21 June this year in Recklinghausen (Federal Republic of Germany), the Executive Committee of the ICFTU European Trade Union Secretariat established the main topics to be discussed in Rome and laid down a line of action to be adopted by the free trade union movement with a view to speeding up the process of European integration and the progressive extension of this integration to the other countries of Europe. The proposed line of action will be submitted to the forthcoming General Assembly.

The Executive Committee also undertook a thorough examination of the trade union situation in each of the Community countries and reaffirmed its policy with regard to affiliates of the WFTU (World Federation of Trade Unions) of rejecting any relations with such organizations.

LOUIS MAJOR PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

On 28 June, Mr. Louis Major, General Secretary of the Belgian Federation of Labour (Fédération générale du travail de Belgique, FGTB) was unanimously elected President of the EEC and Euratom Economic and Social Committee.

The Economic and Social Committee is a consultative body of the Commissions and Council of Ministers of the two Communities. It consists of 101 members representing the various economic and social interests in the six countries : manufacturers, agricultural producers, transport undertakings, workers, business and trades, liberal professions and the public interest generally. Members are appointed for a term of four years by the Council of Ministers. The President's term of office is two years. For the next two years Louis Major will take the chair at meetings of the Presidium and at plenary sessions of the Committee.

The Workers' Members of the Committee Presidium include : O. Brenner (Federal Republic of Germany) and P. Merli-Brandini (Italy), both nominated by the ICFTU; and J. Alders (Netherlands) and M. Bouladoux (France), both nominated by the IFCTU. H. Beerman (DGB, Germany) has been appointed Chairman of the Social Affairs Specialized Section and A. Cool (CSC, Belgium) has been appointed Chairman of the Transport Specialized Section.

TRADE UNION CONFERENCE OF ICFTU MINERS IN THE SIX COUNTRIES

Colmar, 15 to 17 June 1966

A Conference of officials of ICFTU miners' unions in the countries of the European Coal and Steel Community took place at Colmar, France, from 15 to 17 June last.

The delegates gave particular attention to the situation in the coal mining industry in the Community countries.

All the national reports submitted showed very clearly that the economic future of the coal mining industry and social policy in the industry depend on measures which are urgently required from the governmental representatives within the Special Council of Ministers of the ECSC.

The miners' trade union leaders were resolutely opposed to manpower reductions and pit closures unless the re-employment of all workers affected is guaranteed beforehand.

The European Conference of ICFTU Miners' trade union executives also adopted a resolution on the situation in the collieries of the Federal Republic of Germany. This resolution states that any attempts by employers in the largest coal basin of the ECSC to exclude miners from the benefits of social progress must of necessity encounter, by reason of the adverse effects ensuing for other basins in the Community, the strongest resistance from all ICFTU miners' trade unions.

"The responsibility for the defection of the governments and producers cannot be placed on the European miners. The state of the European coal-mining industry will not be rectified by worsening the miners' social status".

The Conference declared its support for the decision of the German Miners' Union (IG Bergbau) to oppose with all its powers any reduction in the real wages of the German miners.

A TRADE UNION SEMINAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUVAIN (BELGIUM)

Louvain, 5-7 July 1966

A seminar on incomes policy in the European Community was held at the Château d'Arenberg at Heverlee, near Louvain on 5, 6 and 7 July 1966. The seminar, organized by the "Common Market" Research Centre (Groupe de Recherches "Marché Commun") of the University of Louvain in co-operation with the IFCTU European Organization and with the assistance of the European Communities, was attended by economic experts from the national trade union federations of the six countries affiliated to the IFCTU.

During the seminar, university research workers and trade-union economic experts studied "incomes policy within the framework of European integration".

This was a joint approach and concerted examination of a question which is otherwise tackled differently in each of the six countries of the Community.

The seminar was opened by Mr. A. Coppé, Vice-President of the ECSC High Authority. Mr. J. Kulakowski, General Secretary of the IFCTU European Organization summed up the results of the seminar.

TRADE UNION CONGRESSES

7TH CONGRESS OF IG. BAU, STEINE, ERDEN (GERMAN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, DGB)

Bremen, 20-25 June 1966

The 7th Congress of IG Bau, Steine, Erden (German National Union of Building and Construction Workers) took place in Bremen from 20 to 25 June 1966.

In his opening address, Mr. Georg Leber, President of the Building Workers' Union, summed up the union's achievements : in the last three years, the membership had increased to 520,000; since 1950 the hourly earnings of building workers had tripled and the present rate is 4.45 DM per hour.

Georg Leber indicated that the activities of his union would, in the forthcoming years, be devoted primarily to incomes policy questions and the provision of educational and training facilities for all.

He went on to note that the IG Bau, Steine, Erden recognizes the rights of private enterprise. In this connection, Mr. Leber said : "It is quite normal for the firm to want to make a profit and to increase this profit. The IG Bau, Steine, Erden does not dispute this right, for only if the firm makes a profit can the workers derive benefit themselves and improve their standard of living".

Mr. Leber went on to state that even today, education and professional training commensurate with the individual's abilities were still the privilege of a small minority and that this state of affairs must be put right. The aim of his union was to build a society resting "on the three main pillars of democratic society : liberty, education and ownership".

Finally, Mr. Leber urged the need to strengthen international co-operation in the future in order to be able to extend to other countries the enjoyment of results achieved at national level.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE BELGIAN UNION OF
SALARIED STAFF, TECHNICIANS AND EXECUTIVES
(SYNDICAT DES EMPLOYES, TECHNICIENS ET CADRES DE BELGIQUE)
(SETCa - FGTB)

Liège, 14 and 15 May 1966

The Congress of the Belgian Union of Salaried Staff, Technicians and Executives, affiliated to the Belgian Federation of Labour (FGTB), took place in Liège on 14 and 15 May.

At the end of the proceedings, the Congress adopted a series of resolutions dealing with the following questions : salaries; the law on contracts of employment; the Industrial Conciliation Board; equal pay for men and women; working hours; taxation; hygiene; pensions; social insurance contributions; the combination of trade union and political office; military expenditure; the defence of peace.

With regard to international relations, the SETCa Congress recalled "the decision of the last FGTB Congress and, accordingly, authorizes its representatives at all levels to make contact with the representative European trade union organizations, whatever their political grouping or colouring, with the fraternal hope of cementing the organization of workers so as to be better placed in confronting the European employers who are organized within the framework of the Common Market to maintain their profits, and, in so doing, to take care to do nothing which might weaken the trade unions affiliated to the International".

SPECIAL CONGRESS OF THE BELGIAN CHRISTIAN MINERS'
CENTRAL ORGANIZATION (CENTRALE DES FRANCS MINEURS, CSC)

Coxyde, 25 and 26 June 1966

The Belgian Christian Miners' Central Organization (CSC) held a special Congress with a limited number of participants at Coxyde on 25 and 26 June last, during which consideration was given to the state of the Belgian coal-mining industry and its social effects. The following resolution was adopted :

"The Congress of the Centrale des Francs Mineurs, meeting at Coxyde on 25 and 26 June, having examined the economic state of the coal-mining industry and its social effects by means of investigations carried out in each coal basin, notes that the economic situation in each basin is such as render impossible as from now any further dismissals without first creating new jobs in these areas.

Congress therefore demands that the industrial redevelopment of these regions should be effected before proceeding with any further pit closures. In view of the urgency of the situation, measures appropriate for each region should be implemented forthwith.

Congress calls upon the Coal Directorate and the High Authority of the ECSC to embark on a thorough-going analysis based on surveys so as to allow an accurate assessment of the social situation of dismissed workers.

Collieries which are in the process of being closed down should not dismiss workers at a faster rate than they can be absorbed in new jobs.

Until the creation of single firms in each basin, as requested by the Centrale des Francs Mineurs at previous Congresses, Congress suggests that manpower policy in each region should be placed in the hands of a single personnel authority operated on a bipartite basis.

In order to maintain production at a constant level in order to guarantee regular supplies to the country and to retain the specialized manpower necessary for achieving this aim, special social benefits must be granted to such workers".

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NKMB (Netherlands) :
AN ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT F. DOHMEN

Heerlen, 8 and 9 July 1966

The annual general meeting ("Bondsraadsvergadering") of the Dutch Catholic Miners' Union (Nederlandse Katholieke Mijnwerkersbond, NKMB) took place at Heerlen (Netherlands) on 8 and 9 July 1966.

In his opening address, the Union President, Mr. F. Dohmen, dealt with the questions of coal production and the co-ordination of energy policy.

Below we reproduce this part of his address :

"In connection with the measures taken by the Netherlands Government, the decision taken by the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community to reduce coal production to 190 million tons before 1970 can be considered as a timely one. Competition from other energy sources, oil and naturel gas particularly, is increasing. No policy of aid embarked on by any of the governments of the six member countries can bring a lasting solution to this extremely difficult problem. It seems inevitable that coal production will have to be brought down progressively to a commercially viable level which would mean that, by 1980, the total ECSC production would be in the region of 100 million tons, even allowing for a safety margin.

It has yet to be seen whether the production corresponding to the safety margin should be split up equally between the different national basins or on a proportional basis.

It is not at all hard to see what the reduction over fifteen years of the total production of the ECSC from 240 to 100 million tons will mean in terms of available employment.

The six countries of the Community will thus be put severely to the test in trying to find reasonable and adequate alternative employment for some 300,000 miners. There is, accordingly, every reason to welcome the High Authority's action in not trying to reduce coal production to 170 million tons before 1970.

In our view, a decision to reduce production by a further 20 million tons would have had the effect of increasing to an intolerable level the social and psychological tension in the various basins; furthermore, industrial redevelopment, proceeding side by side with the retraining of miners, would, under such conditions, have had little chance of success for a very long time ahead.

At international level we have urged a temporary but substantial reduction in coal imports so as to allow us to put on the market reserves which at present constitute 450 million dollars, or more than 1,500 million florins, lying idle and to organize sales, even allowing for a progressive reduction in the amounts involved until such time as rationalization has placed coal production on a profitable basis.

As yet nothing is known about the future development of energy policy as far as countries outside the Community are concerned. This lasting uncertainty, which is due to the lack of co-ordination within the ECSC, has encouraged each member country to institute aid measures at national level; and, since last December, the Netherlands Government has also issued directives in connection with its national energy policy, at least as far as coal production is concerned. Our Government has made a good job of studying and tackling this unusually difficult problem.

Those concerned in surrounding countries are truly anxious to have something comparable for themselves and there is no doubt that the policy of the Netherlands will influence developments in the other countries of the European Coal and Steel Community."

STATEMENTS BY INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE COMMITTEES

5TH EUROPEAN SEMINAR OF THE EUROPEAN UNION OF
FILM AND TELEVISION WORKERS

Paris, 28 to 31 March 1966

For the fifth year in succession, the European Union of Film and Television Workers (ICFTU) has organized a European Trade Union and Technical Seminar. This year's seminar, arranged with the co-operation of the French Cinematographic and Television Workers Union, "Force Ouvrière", was held in Paris from 28 to 31 March.

Taking part in the seminar were 49 delegates from 14 unions in the following countries : Federal Germany, Belgium, France, Netherlands, Italy, Luxembourg, Austria, Finland, Monaco, Switzerland and Turkey.

In view of the topics to be dealt with, the delegates had been particularly chosen from the following professions : Film and television directors, directors of photography, cameramen, laboratory and studio technicians, sound engineers, chief cutters, assistant directors, producers and production secretaries.

The working sessions concerned with trade-union problems as well as those devoted to technical questions presented an opportunity of examining technical problems arising for the European cinema today in connection with 35 and 16 millimetre standard colour films. It was possible to compare the different European processes : Kodak, Pathé (France); Gevaert-Agfa (Belgium, Germany), Ferrania (Italy).

The delegates also received a report from the Union President, Mr. J. Jenger, on the establishment of a permanent link with the General Directorate, "Internal Market", of the EEC.

The delegates also examined with great interest the working plan drawn up in agreement with this General Directorate concerning the following matters : financial matters, relations between the European cinematographic industry and its counterparts in countries outside the Community, harmonization of vocational training, comparative nomenclature of professions within the industry, relations between cinema and television.

Mr. Jenger reported on the first contacts established with the General Directorate and the hopes which the creation of this permanent link give rise to for promoting the work the Union has been pursuing methodically for several years on these important questions.

At the end of the seminar, the Management Committee of the European Union of Film and Television Workers adopted the following resolution :

"The Management Committee of the European Union of Film and Television Workers resolves to intensify its action to harmonize and reduce the burden of taxation on the European film industry. Harmonization and reduction of the tax burden should aim at bringing the current rate of tax into line with that ruling in the most favoured country as a stage towards the complete abolition of entertainments tax levied on cinema receipts.

Nevertheless, regulation of the tax issue is unthinkable outside its proper context, viz. the whole question of film finance, particularly financial aid schemes.

Accordingly, the Union will take action on the following two levels with a view to achieving the objectives set out above :

- a) by approaches to the EEC authorities;
- b) by approaches to the authorities empowered to fix the rate of taxation (these latter approaches to take the form of a publicity campaign based on an accurate presentation of the facts)."

MEETING OF THE PRESIDIUM OF THE EEC GROUP OF FOOD AND DRINK,
TOBACCO AND HOTEL WORKERS' UNIONS (ICFTU)

Brussels, 17 June 1966

The Presidium of the EEC Group of Food and Drink, Tobacco and Hotel Workers' Unions (ICFTU) met in Brussels on 17 June 1966. Mr. W. Braun was in the chair. At this meeting, the Presidium reviewed the activities of the Secretariat since its meeting last March and drew up guiding lines for the Group's working programme for the forthcoming months.

In this context it was decided to concentrate in the coming months on the following questions :

- a) to follow through the results of the EEC investigation of earnings in the food sector (milling, malting, brewing, confectionery, biscuit and chocolate manufacture, Italian paste products, fruit and vegetable canning);
- b) to carry out a survey of working hours in certain food industries (baking and bread-making, brewing, etc.);
- c) to carry out an inquiry among affiliated organizations relating to industrial concentration and financial links between firms in the following sectors : sugar refining, brewing and flour milling;
- d) to improve methods for keeping organizations affiliated to the Group mutually informed on the main current trade union questions in the sphere of collective bargaining.

THE BELGIAN METALWORKERS' CENTRAL ORGANIZATION EXAMINES
THE SITUATION IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

Brussels, 24 June 1966

The National Committee of the Belgian Metalworkers' Central Organization (Centrale des Métallurgistes de Belgique, CMB-FGTB) met in Brussels on 24 June 1966 to review the situation in the iron and steel industry.

The National Committee adopted a resolution which expresses the concern and the wishes of workers in the metal industry, particularly those in the iron and steel industry, and notes that "there is no longer any doubt that the Belgian iron and steel industry, like that of the other ECSC countries, is at present in the midst of a serious crisis".

The CMB feels that "the main reasons for this follow from the complete lack of co-ordination in running the different companies working in this sector, from an irrational rate of investment without previous objective study on an industry-wide basis and from a chaotic increase in productive capacity".

The National Committee also feels that "it is still a basic necessity for the whole trade union movement to campaign vigorously for structural reforms, planning and workers' participation in general".

The motion adopted by the CMB National Committee also considers that "before any further measure of intervention on the part of the State, there should, first of all, be a detailed overall examination, in which all interested parties, including the trade unions, would participate so as to allow for a full exchange of views".

With regard to such questions as mergers, industrial concentration, rationalization and structural changes, "and with particular reference to the economic and social consequences for certain regions", the National Committee demands that all measures in this sphere should, of necessity, be accompanied by :

" an industrial redevelopment plan which will preserve the employment level and the standard of living;

a social plan. In this respect, the National Committee emphasizes the overriding necessity for the iron and steel sector to launch a new campaign for the reduction of working hours and to extend the contents and range of application of minimum income guarantees, particularly in respect of pensions payable on premature retirement from the age of 60 years onwards."

With regard to the work of the ECSC, the motion states :

"Considering the provisions laid down by or under the auspices of the ECSC, the National Committee feels that the ECSC should institute, on the lines advocated by the workers, a true policy of supervision, co-ordination and guidance in the sphere of investments, in which the workers' organizations would participate. The National Committee feels that the ECSC has failed to measure up to this rôle and has sought to correct effects instead of attacking the underlying causes."

Finally, considering that the basic cause is to be sought in the present method of operating the iron and steel industry, the Committee feels there is reason to "reform the operation of the industry so as to serve the general interest better. The Committee affirms its wish to bring about the structural reform of the industry so as to allow the community as a whole and the workers to supervise and guide investments in this sector as well as the operation of the iron and steel industry. The Committee calls on the steel workers to demand for themselves the right to supervise the destiny and working of their industry."

THE LABOUR MOVEMENT AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

2ND EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF ACLI (ITALY)

Brussels, 4, 5 and 6 June 1966

Leaders of Italian Christian Workers' Associations (ACLI) in the countries of the Community met in Brussels on 4, 5 and 6 June 1966.

During this second European Conference, the ACLI representatives reviewed the present situation concerning the migration of Italian workers in Europe, basing themselves on their day-to-day experience as trade union officials.

At the end of the proceedings, a resolution was adopted. The part of this resolution dealing with Community matters is reproduced below :

"The entire Community social policy which, by virtue of the effective free movement of persons, should make it possible to arrive at a final solution of the problems posed by emigration gives rise to great concern not only because it is considerably lagging behind the process of economic integration but also by reason of the many important omissions with regard to the harmonization of the social legislation of Member States.

In this sphere the immediate objectives are :

- a) the approval of the new regulation on the Social Fund according to the proposal submitted to the EEC Council of Ministers;
- b) investigation of action taken by Member States in furtherance of Regulation 38/64 and on the Community recommendations on housing and social services;

- c) the intensification and co-ordination of efforts to solve the human and social problems of workers' families particularly with regard to the re-uniting of families;
- d) the establishment of educational and training centres for young people so as to give the children of migrant workers educational facilities parallel or supplementary to those provided by the country of origin or the country in which the migrant worker is employed;
- e) implementation of the "ten principles" of a Community policy of vocational training to be carried out by adapting training programmes, standards and professional qualifications."

II. REVIEW OF THE LABOUR AND TRADE UNION PRESS

GENERAL POLICY

"L'EUROPE ET LA RECONNAISSANCE SYNDICALE" (EUROPE AND RECOGNITION OF THE TRADE UNIONS) by Joseph Dedoyard

"Syndicats" (FGTB-Belgium) No. 20 of 21.5.66, p. 2

"De Werker" (ABVV-Belgium) No. 20 of 21.5.66, p. 2

"L'Action" (FGTB-Charleroi) No. 19 of 21.5.66, pp. 1 and 5

"The Executive of the first European Community, the ECSC, is composed of nine members, one of whom is co-opted by the other eight," writes J. Dedoyard. "At the beginning, the co-opted member was directly put forward by the trade unions. The two other European Communities, the Common Market and Euratom have no workers' representatives, whether directly or indirectly elected."

"Some months ago" J. Dedoyard continues, "it was decided to merge the three Executives in such a way that there would no longer be more than one executive for the three Communities".

"The trade unions have made use of every opportunity to obtain fair representation on the new envisaged body. Without success : the workers are not to be represented on the single Executive. The six governments have so decided. It is not so much the fact that the governments are unaware of the existence of the trade unions as that they are determined to prevent a new form of very far-reaching trade union recognition".

"After the end of the Second World War, trade union recognition was extended to many spheres. Recognition gained ground and was consolidated, the new rights of workers being increased not only within the firm but with regard to their whole position in the community. It was legally endorsed by national legislation. In many sectors, the legal recognition of the trade union member is manifested in the reservation of certain rights for trade union members only".

"Now, the question of recognizing the trade unions has been put forward and has not yet been resolved at European level. It had been an established fact, at least partially, when the ECSC was set up".

"The Treaty of Rome limited the representation of workers, as it were, to representation on the Economic and Social Committee (...). Recognition of the trade unions at European level is a major objective which has still to be attained. It will be attained to the extent that it has become a living reality in the nation by reason of the irresistible desire of the organized workers".

"APRES LES ACCORDS DE BRUXELLES" (FOLLOWING THE BRUSSELS AGREEMENT)
by Jean Bourhis, "Syndicalisme" (CFDT, France) No. 1087, 25 May 1966, p. 16.

After reviewing the agreement reached on 11 May 1966 in Brussels on the financing of the common agricultural Policy, J. Bourhis writes : "If the Europe of big business, the economic Europe is to be finalized ahead of the time-table established by the Treaty of Rome, the social aspect of Europe is behind schedule even with regard to what is laid down in this Treaty in, for example, the matter of equal pay for men and women ; so much was proved by the recent long strike by women workers at Liège in Belgium".

The trade union movement should, in the months to come, work to ensure that the French workers do not end up by footing the bill for the Common Market and we should work resolutely to place our activities on a European scale so that, acting in a fraternal union with our fellow workers in Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, we may push through the only true Europe, the Europe of workers and peoples, the Europe of economic and social progress".

"EUROPE" a special report in "Syndicalisme Magazine" (CFDT - France)
No. 1086, June 1966, pp. 22 to 25.

In their special report on Europe, the editors of "Syndicalisme Magazine" present the views of German, Belgian, Dutch, Italian and French workers on their place in Europe and what they expect from Europe.

"I GRUPPI DEL CES" ("The 'group' in the Economic and Social Committee"), "Conquiste del Lavoro" (CISL - Italy) No. 29 of 17-23.7.66, p. 8.

The official publication of the Italian CISL recalls that the rules of the Economic and Social Committee (EEC - Euratom) allow members to organize themselves in "groups". Thus, in the past there has been an employers' "group", a workers' "group" and a third "group" formed by those not belonging to either of the other "groups".

Recently, when members were being appointed to the Committee for a new term of office, the heterogenous quality of the lists of workers' candidates submitted by governments made it impossible to form a workers' "group". Accordingly, "Conquiste del Lavoro" writes, unions affiliated to the CISL and those affiliated to the CISC have decided to meet separately and to set up a liaison committee to co-ordinate their activities within the Economic and Social Committee.

According to the journal, this decision has to be judged in the light of its real and practical implications. It follows from the fact that the free trade unions cannot possibly establish working relations with representatives of trade unions affiliated to the WFTU (World Federation of Trade Unions). In this respect, "Conquiste del Lavoro" invites the Italian socialist trade union members of the CGIL (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro), which is affiliated to the WFTU, to continue their efforts with a view to disaffiliating the CGIL from the WFTU, the only way in which the CGIL may be able to emerge from its state of isolation at international level.

"EEG - LANDBOUWAKKOORD - PRIJS VOOR INTEGRATIE" (The EEC Agricultural Agreement - the Price of Integration) by L. Velleman, "De Vakbeweging", (NVV - Netherlands) No. 12 of 7.6.66, pp. 194-196.

The author devotes an article to the various aspects of the agreement on agricultural prices reached on the night of 10 to 11 May 1966 and to the statements made on this occasion.

Expressing a qualified satisfaction with the agreement, the author feels that European union has reached a stage where it will be very difficult to go back.

However, he puts the question - which he himself answers in the negative - whether a united Europe can still make do with the present structure of its institutions. He concludes :

"The customs union which is due to come into force on 1 July 1968 represents for this part of the world an achievement one would not have dared to dream of some thirty years ago. The fact that it is only a question of economic integration and that the political unification of Europe (which the authors of the Treaty of Rome had in mind) is still a long way off does not detract in any way from the importance of this event. Nevertheless, solely with a view to assuring the proper working of economic integration, priority should now be given to revising the political structures. It goes without saying that, for the people of the Netherlands, such a revision could only be in the direction of greater democracy and supranationality".

"DIE NATIONALSTAATEN SIND UEBERHOLT" (National states are obsolete) by Walter Fritze, "Welt der Arbeit" (DGB - Federal Germany) No. 25 of 24.6.66, p. 4.

European questions, including the EEC crisis and the German question, were the main topics of the 15th European Colloquy held at Engelsburg Castle, Recklinghausen.

Political personalities from eight European countries took an active part in the discussions.

Mr. Kuby, Member of the European Parliament, stated in his paper that "in spite of the resurgence of nationalist ideologies everywhere, there can no longer be any nationalist solutions for Europe". He went on to emphasize that "the present economic integration without political unity, without parliamentary supervision and without social harmonization's being carried through at the expense of democracy and to the detriment of the workers". He appealed to the European trade unions to join together in taking a new initiative with a view to creating a truly democratic and social Europe.

Those taking part in the colloquy were unanimous in calling for increased powers for the future European Commission.

All the participants, writes Mr. Fritze, will long remember the words of Jean Fohrmann, Member of the High Authority, who recalled that "twenty years after the end of the First World War, Europe was once again locked in mortal combat, whilst today - twenty years after the Second World War - Europeans are seriously talking about the unification of this continent".

SOCIAL QUESTIONS

"LES ACCIDENTS DE TRAVAIL EN SIDERURGIE" ("Industrial accidents in the iron and steel industry") "Métal", Centrale Chrétienne des Métallurgistes de Belgique (Belgian Christian Metalworkers' Central Organization, CSC) May 1966, pp. 10 and 11.

"Métal" comments on the results of an inquiry recently published by the High Authority concerning industrial accidents occurring between 1960 and 1963 in the iron and steel industry in the six member countries of the Community.

"It would be premature" the author maintains, "to attempt to draw final conclusions at this stage from these statistics. They do nevertheless provide us with some interesting information. Thus, at Community level, one may note that the risk of fatal accidents and accidents resulting in work stoppages is not the same for all parts of the industry. "Steel-works" and "blast furnaces" are more dangerous as regards fatal accidents; in "steel-works" and "rolling mills" there is a greater risk of accidents involving work stoppages.

One may also note that a reduction in the frequency of accidents is generally accompanied by the increase in the average duration of the work stoppage and that a high frequency is matched by a short average duration of stoppages and vice versa.

On the whole, the trend of the frequency rate of accidents involving work stoppages indicates some improvement".

"LES FEMMES ET LA REMUNERATION EGALE", Bulletin CSC (Belgium) No. 7 of 15.6.66 ("De vrouwen en de gelijkbezoldiging" ACV Tijdschrift) "WOMEN AND EQUAL PAY"

This number of the "Bulletin" is devoted to two topical social questions : equal pay and the strike by women employees at the Herstal Munition Factory, Fabrique Nationale de Guerre F.N.

By way of introduction, the author of the two articles writes : "In recent months public attention has been drawn to a question which has been occupying us for some years : the way in which women's wages lag behind men's. This is a complicated problem. If it is not looked at more closely, it will never be solved".

The first article explains exactly what the question involves, what the difficulties are and what has been done towards solving the problem.

The second article illustrates what can happen when the good will of one party is seriously in doubt and the women, realizing this, have resolved to do something about it. This is set out in the article dealing with the F.N. strike at Herstal.

In conclusion, the author writes that Belgium is being treated as something of a scapegoat for Europe generally, at least in the comments and reports that have been made about this strike. Now, it would seem that even France does not have equal pay for men and women workers. "Acting on our own, we cannot solve this problem. This is a task for the European trade union movement stripped of its nationalist tendencies".

"FEMMES EN GREVE" (WOMEN ON STRIKE) by Henri Clavelles - "F.O. Magazine" (France) No. 8 of June 1966, p. 12

Reporting on the strike at Herstal in Belgium, the author recalls the activities of "Force Ouvrière" at Community level in the sphere of equal pay for men and women workers :

"In Brussels, where he is workers' representative on the tripartite working party (governments, employers and workers) which has the task of assisting the Community authorities in their work, Roger Louet has asked for the following studies and investigations to be carried out :

1. An inquiry into the state of professional gradings;
2. An inquiry into salary structure and the relative importance of bonuses, certain of which are a source of disparity;
3. A survey of vocational training facilities and methods of promotion applied exclusively to women workers;
4. A study of the trend in the part time employment of women workers;
5. A survey of new jobs which could be opened to women workers, taking account of technical progress".

"All these separate items of information, "adds H. Clavelles", should allow a better understanding of the real causes of the disparity between the earnings of men and women, by revealing those which are, in effect, the result of sexual discrimination. In short, the sine-qua-non of success in this field is, over and above the legal guarantees and legislative provisions, an active realization by French workers, men and women alike, of what constitutes their destiny and their resolve to join the trade union movement so as to protect the dignity of their lives".

"PROBLEMI DELL'EMIGRAZIONE" (PROBLEMS OF EMIGRATION) "Il Lavoro Italiano" (UIL - Italy) No. 26, dated 10.7.66, p. 4.

The official publication of the UIL (Italy) devotes page 4 of its number of 10 July to questions concerning migrant workers. One article deals with difficulties encountered by the Federal Republic of Germany in its policy for providing housing for migrant workers. It is followed by two reports dealing with : the last meeting of the Technical Committee on Free Movement at which the principle of Community priority, as laid down in Regulation 38/64, was raised by the Italian government representative in connection with the recruitment of migrant workers; and the seminar on the prevention of industrial accidents organized by the EEC Commission. In this connection, stress was laid on the need to adopt Community standards for the prevention of industrial accidents.

"Il Lavoro Italiano" also refers to the talks which Mr. Levi Sandri, Vice-President of the EEC Commission, has recently held with Ministers of Labour of the Community countries with a view to considering the possibilities of speeding up social policy.

The UIL publication also lists the offices set up by UIL-ITAL (1) to assist Italian workers in EEC countries.

"WIR BRAUCHEN IHRE ARBEITSKRAFT" (WE NEED THEIR LABOUR) by A. Halle, "Welt der Arbeit", No. 22 of 3.6.66, p. 8.

The author begins by showing how much the Federal Republic needs foreign workers. The number of such workers has steadily increased, reaching 1 230 000 by 31 March 1966. A. Halle continues by pointing out the difficulties the foreign workers come across in settling down in the Federal Republic. He emphasizes that the most important task is "to welcome and show understanding to the foreign worker who comes to live with us in the German Federal society".

An interview given by Mr. Schüttler, a Minister of Federal Germany, reflects the views of many responsible officials in the Federal Republic. Mr. Schüttler said, int. al : "We often act as if the foreign worker should be grateful to us for earning his living here. We forget that we have to be grateful to these workers for filling gaps which we ourselves can no longer fill".

Mr. Ludwig Rosenberg, President of the DGB (German Federation of Trade Unions), addressing himself to foreign workers in his May Day Message, has also stated : "The great idea of solidarity which encompasses workers of all countries and constitutes the basis of the trade union movement is the strongest link between you and ourselves. The free trade union movement is your friend. It is linked to you by true solidarity and it wishes you to feel at home here and to be as free and to enjoy exactly the same rights as your German workmates".

(1) Istituto Assistenza Lavoratori

The author ends his article by asking whether - as certain circles claim from time to time - there is a desire to remove foreign workers from the Federal Republic. "The question is whether there is a majority in the Federal Republic which would be ready to do the work which the foreign workers would no longer be there to do".

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

"LE PROBLEME CHARBONNIER" (THE COAL PROBLEM) by Robert Balesse, "L'Ouvrier mineur" Centrale des Mineurs de Belgique (Belgian Miners' Central Organization, FGTB) No. 4/1966, pp. 7 and 8.

"The High Authority", writes the General Secretary of the Belgian Miners' Central Organization (FGTB), "has submitted to the Consultative Committee a memorandum on the coal production objectives for 1970 and on coal policy. The memorandum envisages maintaining coal production at 190 million tons for the six countries of the Community in 1970.

"This entails a further massive reduction in the coal production of the different countries. Here we have the whole drama of the Community. When it was set up, it was necessary to increase coal production to raise the standard of living of the people of the Community. Today, the Community is, quite simply, sacrificing its coal-mining industry. It is putting Western Europe at the mercy of the Americans and the communist countries to supply it with the coal it will need in the future. It shows complete confidence in the willingness of the countries of the Middle East to meet its oil requirements.

R. Balesse continues : "What is the situation outside the countries of the Community ? The United States are increasing their coal production. At the moment the price of their coal sold in Europe works out cheaper than the Community coal. How long will this state of affairs last ? American financiers are no angels. When they have the chance, they will make the countries of the Community pay very dearly for their coal, as they did some years ago. England wishes to keep its production at 200 million tons a year. She wants to safeguard an adequate supply in an emergency and takes the necessary steps. In all the communist countries, coal production is increasing at a considerable rate : in Poland, Germany, Russia, China, Czechoslovakia, etc. How does it come about that coal is condemned in

certain countries and production is increased elsewhere ? The Governments of the Community itself have failed in the establishment of an energy policy ?

"In the meantime, "R. Balesse continues, "it is manual and white-collar workers employed in the coal mining industry who are the sufferers. Whole regions are dying".

"LA SITUATION CHARBONNIERE EN EUROPE SE DEGRADE AU FIL DES JOURS"
(THE EUROPEAN COAL SITUATION IS GETTING WORSE FROM DAY TO DAY) by Ch. Cortot,
"Réveil des Mineurs" (F.O., France) No. 121, June 1966, p. 1.

In this article, the author describes the coal situation and advocates measures necessary for safeguarding employment :

"The coal crisis is reaching a particularly serious stage. Sales of Community coal are continuing to fall off and stocks go on increasing in spite of some pits being closed and others not being worked".

"According to a coal market study, this trend will continue. The disparity between supply and demand in the short and medium term will become more pronounced. The sale of 170 million tons is envisaged for 1970, if the support measures of the national governments remain at the same level.

"Assuming that all adequate measures are taken by Governments to put right this situation and allowing for an acceptable cutting back of production as well as the need to safeguard supplies, coal sales could still be kept at 190 millions tons. But this means that, to attain this objective of 190 million tons, urgent attention will have to be given to the need for co-ordinating the different state policies on imports and assistance measures".

With the fuel market and competition between fuels in its present state, machinery should be set up to promote the consumption of coal, whilst aiming at the removal of distortions which have so far been evident.

Provision should also be made for appropriate measures to overcome social difficulties, more particularly by establishing a policy for maintaining a stable, qualified labour force, for instance by means of improved earnings, a body of social privileges to encourage loyalty to the coal-mining industry, guarantees of re-employment, development of vocational training and of the system of promotion for the different categories of staff.

The workers are demanding guarantees with regard to the rate of adaptation of production and, in particular, an extension and improvement of industrial redevelopment and retraining and re-employment, particularly with regard to rates, prescribed periods and the rules establishing those qualifying for benefits.

A special effort is called for on behalf of older and handicapped workers".

"EEC - EUROPESE INTEGRATIE", "Verlaging van invoerrechten in de EEG" ("THE EEC - EUROPEAN INTEGRATION", "Reduction of EEC import duties") "De Werkmeester" (NKV, Netherlands) No. 6 of June 1966, p. 22.

"In spite of all the pessimism", the NKV publication writes, the process of European integration is making progress. This can only be welcomed. As trade unions, we shall have to deal more and more with the Europe of the Six.

As workers we must see to it that our voice is heard and we must do everything we can to weaken, through our trade unions, the effects of circumstances attendant on unification which would be likely to damage the interests of workers. We have the following questions primarily in mind :

1. Industrial integration on a European scale at a time when we are still fully occupied with the problems of integration on a national scale;
2. Foodstuff prices which are showing a rapid tendency to establish themselves at a European level;
3. Rents which are also developing in the direction of the European level;
4. Associations of employers who are actively co-operating on a European scale and who will, in a few years, be putting forward collective agreements corresponding to a European scale of organization;

5. Serious competition on the Netherlands markets from a wide variety of European products.

We shall have to be vigilant and watch these developments very closely and, in doing so, our trade unions must constantly increase their strength, proceeding from a purely national level of organization confined to the Netherlands to organization at European level".

"ERHARD MUSSTE UEBER SEINEN SCHATTEN SPRINGEN" (ERHARD HAD TO DO A QUICK TURNABOUT) "DIE EWG-STAAATEN EINIGEN SICH AUF MITTELFRISTIGE WIRTSCHAFTS-POLITIK" (THE EEC STATES REACH AGREEMENT ON MEDIUM TERM ECONOMIC POLICY) "Welt der Arbeit" No. 5 of 24.6.66, p. 4 - by R. Henschel

In this article, the author comments on the acceptance by the German Federal Government of the EEC medium term economic policy.

Economic planning over a number of years, a long-standing claim of the trade unions, - R. Henschel points out - is now to be compulsory even for the Federal Government so that the economic development of the EEC may proceed harmoniously.

In accordance with the decision taken by the Council of Ministers on 15 April 1964, economic experts have been nominated for the six countries with the task of analyzing and presenting forecasts of economic development up to the year 1970. As far as the Federal Republic is concerned, the author continues, the Ministry of Economic Affairs has carried out its own analysis. Experts independent of the Government have reached the conclusion that up to 1970 an annual growth rate of 4.2 % in productivity over the entire economy is both possible and probable. This figure appeared too high to Ministry officials and in their own study they reach a figure of 3.5 % for the annual increase in productivity. Thus, the representatives of the German Federal Government have had to admit after all that in the course of the next few years economic policy will be more successful in the other EEC countries than in Federal Germany.

III. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DOCUMENTATION

ECSC - EEC - EURATOM

"NOUVELLES REFLEXIONS SUR LES PERSPECTIVES ENERGETIQUES A LONG TERME DE LA COMMUNAUTE EUROPEENNE - EVOLUTION RECENTE ET PERSPECTIVES POUR 1980 - TENDANCES JUSQU'A 1980"

("FURTHER REFLEXIONS ON THE LONG-TERM ENERGY OUTLOOK FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK FOR 1980 - TRENDS UP TO 1980"),
Luxembourg, April 1966, doc. No. 3100, published in French, German, Italian and Dutch.

The originality of this new document is that it describes the probable development of the energy situation in the world generally and in the European Community in particular up to the year 1980.

In view of the fact that investments in production and consumption for the year 1970 have already to a large extent been fixed by decisions taken so far, the authors of "Nouvelles Reflexions" have thought it desirable to devote particular attention to the outlook for 1980 where opportunities for action and alternative choices still present themselves in the majority of spheres.

Whilst the overriding preoccupation for 1970 will be to provide that coal produced is actually sold, the long-term concern, viz. for the period up to 1980, must be to make preparations for covering the growing needs of the Community at the best possible prices and with optimum safeguards with regard to supplies. In other words, the study which has just been published is an attempt to assist and prepare for the situation desired for 1980.

Looking ahead to 1980, the energy problems of the Community have to be examined in a world-wide context, because the greater part of the Community's needs will inevitably have to be covered by imports of hydrocarbons (oil and natural gas) from other parts of the world.

In order to avoid any misunderstandings, the document points out that the sole aim of the authors has been to present an economic and technical analysis and that the political conclusions have been or will be drawn in other documents.

EEC

"SUPPLEMENT AU BULLETIN No. 5/1966 DE LA COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE EUROPEENNE" - SUPPLEMENT TO BULLETIN No. 5/1966 OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - Executive Secretariat of the Commission, Publishing Services of the European Communities, No. 4001, published in four languages, on sale.

This Supplement to Bulletin No. 5/1966 reproduces the report by the Commission to the Council on future trends in the production of some important agricultural items and possible outlets for them.

SUPPLEMENT TO BULLETIN No. 6/1966 OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - Executive Secretariat of the Commission, Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 4001, published in four languages, on sale.

This Supplement to Bulletin No. 6 is devoted entirely to questions relating to the establishment of a common price level for milk, milk products, beef and veal, rice, sugar, oilseeds and olive oil (annexes and graphs).

ECSC

"INDICATIONS SUR LA CONJONCTURE ENERGETIQUE DE LA COMMUNAUTE - SITUATION - PERSPECTIVES 1966" (NOTES ON THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY ENERGY SPHERE AND ON THE OUTLOOK FOR 1966) ECSC Bulletin No. 59, Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 12458, four languages, on sale.

For 1966, the High Authority has drawn up, in co-operation with the EEC and Euratom Commission, the report published in this Bulletin. The report was considered by the Council at its meeting in Luxembourg on 7 March 1966.

Following an introduction by Mr. del Bo, President of the High Authority, the discussions were mainly devoted to the coal situation and the short and medium term marketing outlook for Community coal.

In his introduction, President del Bo emphasized the need for a Community solution for the present difficulties affecting the Community coal industry.

"LES PROGRES DANS LA TRANSFORMATION DE L'ACIER - CONGRES ACIER 1965"
(PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE PROCESSING OF STEEL - STEEL CONGRESS 1965,
Luxembourg, 26 to 29 October 1965, ECSC Bulletin No. 58. Publishing Services
of the European Communities No. 12123, four languages, on sale.

This Bulletin is devoted entirely to the International Congress on
the Utilization of Steel" which in 1965 considered the topic : "Progress
achieved in the processing of steel".

This Congress, which was presided over by Mr. Franz Etzel, former
Financial Minister of the Federal German Republic and former Vice-President
of the High Authority, was attended by more than 1 100 persons from 44
countries.

The Bulletin contains extracts of general interest from the proceedings
of this Congress.

"POLITIQUE DE LA HAUTE AUTORITE DANS LE DOMAINE DE LA PROMOTION DES
ETUDES ET RECHERCHES CONCERNANT L'HYGIENE, LA MEDECINE ET LA SECURITE DU
TRAVAIL" (POLICY OF THE HIGH AUTHORITY IN THE PROMOTION OF STUDIES AND
RESEARCH INTO INDUSTRIAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND MEDICINE), ECSC Bulletin No. 60,
Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 12397, four languages,
on sale.

This Bulletin gives a factual presentation of the policy lines that
have been evolved with the assistance of industrial, governmental and
scientific advisory bodies. It outlines the results of 13 years of work
on promoting and co-ordinating scientific research.

The experience obtained by the High Authority in working in the fields
of industrial medicine, traumatology, industrial physiology and psychology
and industrial health bears witness to the possibilities opened up by the
Treaty of Paris and offers an assurance of new and fruitful action in the
future.

EURATOM

"L'ENERGIE NUCLEAIRE EN BELGIQUE" (NUCLEAR ENERGY IN BELGIUM) by R. Lamarche and A. Vaes, Euratom Bulletin, June 1966, Vol . V. No. 2, pp. 36 to 43, four languages.

MISCELLANEOUS

"L'EUROPE QUI SE FAIT" ("EUROPE IN THE MAKING") in "Politiques", special number 25-32/1964-1965 (62, rue des Granges, Besançon 25 - France) 300 pp. FF 20.

This special number which has been compiled by the Association of Doctors of Political Science (Association des Docteurs en Sciences Politiques) contains a series of studies concerned with different aspects of "Europe in the making".

Miss Anne-Marie Houdbine, of the Faculty of Law of the University of Paris, contributes a sociological study of the European Parliament.

Mr. Jean Roels of the University of Louvain examines the problems posed by the representation of interests within the European institutions.

Jean Choffel, Doctor of Law, writes about the European trade union movements.

Finally, there is a study of the rôle of the European Investment Bank by Jean-Claude Becane, Doctor of Law, and a contribution by Mr. Yves Maxime Danan, Doctor of Political Science, on "The postage stamp as a reflexion and vehicle of the European idea".

"GEOGRAPHIE DU MONDE CONTEMPORAIN" (CONTEMPORARY WORLD GEOGRAPHY) by Victor Prévot, Paris 1966, Librairie classique Eugène Belin, 464 pages.

This text-book on geography for the final secondary school classes is the work of a French Grammar School Master and represents the results of many years' teaching experience.

The aim is to introduce young people to the human and economic facts of the present-day world.

The reader may care to note a chapter dealing with the general features of Europe : the originality of Europe, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, the European outlook. This chapter has numerous references to the European Communities.

One original feature of this text-book of geography is that it gives at the end a list of films illustrating the course.

TO OUR READERS

THIS PUBLICATION IS INTENDED TO KEEP THE TRADE UNION LEADERS OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INFORMED REGARDING THE VIEWS OF DIFFERENT TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND MUST NOT BE TAKEN AS COINCIDING WITH THOSE OF THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS.

Editors' Note

